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9. [ ] JMM) Called Ed Braswell, Chief of Staff, Senate Armed Services Committee, for clarification of reports from DIA regarding their appearance before the Committee on 29 January. Braswell said that on two separate occasions Secretary Laird had "tried to serve up Mr. Helms" as part of a joint CIA/DIA briefing on the strategic threat. Braswell speculated that Laird had tried to employ this device "to kick off his new ABM pitch." Braswell said Chairman Stennis had not accepted Laird's proposal, but at the opening of the DIA briefing on 29 January had sought to assure himself that the DIA briefing was based on material shared with CIA, and on agreed estimates.

Referring to the Director's 30 January appearance, Braswell said there was considerable interest in the tactical air situation in Europe and our Subcommittee might wish to call the Director back to discuss this problem at some future date.

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10. [ ] JMM) Called Russ Blandford, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, to say that in response to his question of 23 January the Agency had never received any firm warning from any Iranian officials regarding an imminent coup in Libya. I said the Shah and others had occasionally spoken of the instability of the old regime in Libya and Nasir might want to take advantage of the situation. However I said we had never received any information from the State Department or anyone else about a specific warning given by Iranian foreign minister Zahedi to Embassy officers shortly before the coup.

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11. [ ] - JMM) Representative John O. Marsh called to say that he would like to discuss with me tomorrow a couple of items regarding his report to the Appropriations Committee Chairman on his recent trip to Southeast Asia. We agreed to meet, probably at my home, after the Lipscomb funeral services.

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JOHN M. MAURY  
Legislative Counsel

cc:

ER

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O/DDCI

Mr. [ ]

MORI/CDE

Mr. Houston; Mr. Goodwin

DDI DDS DDS&amp;T

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EA/DDP OPPB

Item 1 - WH Division [ ]

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CRC, 8/12/2003